

**Barningham Parish Council, explanation as to why 'No' has been ticked in Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement.**

With reference statement 5. Whilst there was no formal assessment of the council's risk assessment documentation for the year under review. The documentation will be seen and adopted by council at a future meeting in 2025 for the coming year and will detail in general terms the risks associated with the functioning of a smaller authority and the measures the council will undertake to mitigate these risks.

With reference to statement 7, the council decided to tick 'No' to assertion 7 as although, they considered all the recommendations and comments raised from the Internal Audit Report and had actioned some of the recommendations, there were still some actions outstanding. These were (i) Adoption of a general reserves policy. (ii) Adoption and publication of a Publication Scheme (under the Freedom of Information Act) These matters will be addressed, by the council, in the coming year.

The council, in addition to the above, are aware that there was no formal assessment of the council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulation documentation for the year under review. These documents were reviewed at the June 2025 Parish Council Meeting.

Vicki Gay, Clerk and RFO Barningham Parish Council